(c) to (e) Expansion and modification work of terminal building for handling limited international operations at a cost of Rs. 14.56 crores has been awarded on 02.12.2005 and is likely to be completed by June, 2006.

Growth in air cargo

2905. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cargo airlines are poised to register an average annual growth of 6.26 percentage for the next 20 years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what will be the share of national carrier in the growth as compared to private carriers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVILAVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) The air cargo in the country has grown at an annual growth rate of 12.4% over the period of last ten years. During the year 2004-05, there has been an annual growth of 27.1% over the previous year. However, growth of air cargo in future would, inter alia, depend on capacity induction, prevailing market conditions, competitors strategy, growth in other modes of transportation etc.

(c) The share of national carriers during the year 2000-2001, 2001-2002, 2002-2003, 2003-04 and 2004-05 was 51.3%, 42.6%, 40.9% and 37.1% respectively. With the expected arrival of new private operators in the coming years, the share of national carriers is expected to go down further.

Performance of Cat-III B landing system

†2906. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that CAT-III B system is being installed to see that flights are not cancelled in case of fog and advantage likely to be gained thereby;

(b) the number of pilots who have been trained to work on this system; and

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government propose to make foolproof arrangements for the safety of pilots engaged on this system as well as aircrafts and if not, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 21 pilots of Air India and 39 pilots of Indian Airlines have so far been trained and approved by the Diectorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) for operating flights under Cat-III B conditions.

(c) DGCA has prescribed qualification/experience and trained and approved by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) for operating flights under Cat-III B conditions.

DGCA has prescribed qualification/experience and training for pilots operating domestic airlines to undergo training for Cat-II/III A and B operations. Only DGCA approved pilots are authorised to operate under Cat-III conditions during fog. Pilots operating foreign airlines who are trained for Cat-IIIB operations by their State, can also operate flights under Cat-III B conditions during fog.

Development of non-metro airports by AAI

2907. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that IDFC and HUDCO have agreed to lend Rs. 5000 croes to facilitate the development of non-metro airports by AAI;

(b) whether it is also a fact that AAI propose to issue tax free airport bonds to finance is infrastructure development and also to meet the expenses for the development of non-metro airports;

(c) whether the Ministry have any action plan to implement the above projects; and

(d) whether any time-frame has been fixed by which both development of non-metro airports and the infrastructure development could be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir.